#### **American Rescue Plan Act**

REPORTING AND SUBRECIPIENT/ PROJECT MONITORING

Amanda Methot Municipal and Governmental Services Practice Group February 9, 2023

#### **Overview**

- Reporting
- Project specific information
- Subrecipient Monitoring

#### **BERNSTEIN SHUR**

## APRA Important Dates

Tier	Recipient	Interim Report	Project and Expenditure Report	Recovery Plan Performance Report
1	States, U.S. territories, metropolitan cities and counties with a population that exceeds 250,000 residents	By August 31, 2021 or 60 days after receiving funding if funding was received by October 15, with expenditures by category.  Note: NEUs were not required to submit an Interim Report	By January 31, 2022, and then 30 days after the end of each quarter thereafter  Note: NEUs were not required to submit a Project and Expenditure Report on January 31, 2022. The first reporting date for NEUs will be April 30, 2022.	By August 31, 2021 or 60 days after receiving funding, and annually thereafter by July 31
2	Metropolitan cities and counties with a population below 250,000 residents that are allocated more than \$10 million in SLFRF funding, and NEUs that are allocated more than \$10 million in SLFRF funding.			
3	Tribal Governments that are allocated more than \$30 million in SLFRF funding			
4	Tribal Governments that are allocated less than \$30 million in SLFRF funding		By April 30, 2022, and then annually thereafter	
5	Metropolitan cities and counties with a population below 250,000 residents that are allocated less than \$10 million in SLFRF funding, and NEUs that are allocated less than \$10 million in SLFRF funding.			

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# Reporting – Required Information

#### **PROJECTS**

- Governments have a lot of control in this portion of reporting so use it to your advantage.
- Project names and descriptions should use buzz words from the final rule and the expenditure category descriptions.
- COVID should be referenced in every project description as the use of funds needs to relate back to being "caused by or made worse by COVID".
- Keep the scope of the project narrow, only <u>one expenditure</u> category can be used for a project. Pick one and focus on that language

## Reporting-Required Information

# OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES PROJECT STATUS

- Not started, less than 50 percent, more than 50 percent, completed
- This does not have to be exact use your best judgement



# PROJECT SPECIFIC REPORTING

Certain Project Expenditure
Categories will have additional reporting

- Public Health and Economic Impacts
- Capital Expenditures
- Premium Pay
- Sewer and Water Projects
- Broadband Projects

# Public Health and Economic Impacts

- Assistance to Households and Businesses/Nonprofits
  - Demographics
    - The system will give you options regarding impacted and disproportionately impacted populations.
    - You can choose more than one population if it fits the program design
    - The goal is to serve disproportionately impacted populations when possible
  - Number of people/businesses/nonprofits served by the program
    - This is number must consist of only new beneficiaries of the program.

# Capital Expenditures and Infrastructure

- Location
  - Ideally the project will be located in a qualified census tract (QCT)
- Projects over \$10,000,000 or have \$1,000,000 in ARPA
  - The \$10,000,000 threshold is total project cost not ARPA funds
  - Written justification for the project
    - Justification should discuss need for project and why the cost of the project is high.
  - Labor reporting
    - Certification that prevailing wages are paid to laborers working on the project. (AKA Davis Bacon).
    - Collective Bargaining Agreement
    - Prioritize local hires
    - Community Benefit Agreement

## Davis-Bacon 101

- Select current wage based on project type
  - Building, residential, heavy, or highway
- Provide primary contractor with wage rates based on project
- Provide primary contractor with certified payroll form
- Set up a certified payroll reporting schedule with primary contractor
  - Should be every 2 weeks based on federal rule
- Review payroll forms for accuracy and only pay out ARPA funds when they are accurate

# Premium Pay

- Critical sector designation- government services is an enumerated designation
- Number of workers receiving premium pay
- Brief statement about how they responded to the COVID crisis and why their work was essential
- Written justification for workers that were over 150% of the area median income and are exempt.

# Water and Sewer Projects

- Median household income of the area served by the project
- Lowest quintile income of the service area

#### **Broadband Infrastructure**

- Confirm speed of the system
- Project specific information
  - Technology type
  - Miles of fiber in project
  - Total number of funded locations (households and businesses)
    - This should be reported by speed and type of location (household, business, community/government).

#### **MONITORING**

- Monitoring is for subrecipients only.
- UG does not discuss the specific standards that need to be used to monitor subrecipients.
- Recommendations
  - Performance report requirement
  - Risk assessment procedure
  - Onsight monitoring

## PERFORMANCE REPORTS

- When creating performance reports look at the expenditure category the project falls under
  - What is required to be reported out on for that category
- Performance reports at minimum should ask for:
  - Number of individuals served
  - Number of units of service provided
  - Ex. Food program reports out on how many individuals have used the program as well as how many meals have been provided
- Schedule of reporting
  - Monthly or quarterly

## PERFORMANCE REPORTS

- Performance report requirements should be discussed in the subrecipient contract
  - Be specific on what information is to be reported and the schedule of reporting.
- Performance reports tied to funding
  - Awards can be made to subrecipients upfront.
  - Releasing funds on the same schedule of performance reports allows for the more oversight from the municipality.
  - Ideally the funding requested will be proportional to the number of people served
  - Ex. Subrecipient planned to serve 100 people, performance report 1 shows 35 people have been served, they would be allowed to request 35% of their funding.

#### Attachment B: Units of Service Report

Agency Name:	Program Name:		
Preparer's Name:	Phone Number:		
Calendar Mo. of Report	Contract Period: 29th Year		

	Units Directly Applicable Toward Contract		
Type of Unit	Number of Units	Number of new persons served this month: (should match column A on Ethnicity Report)	
		Notes	
		110100	
Total for Period			

#### **RISK ASSESSMENTS**

- Risk assessments should be done at the application phase and then throughout performance.
- Recommend making a risk assessment score card
  - Prior experience with federal grant funding
  - Staff turn over
  - Previous audit findings
  - Under performing on deliverables
  - Errors in reporting
  - Major changes to program design or program budget
- If possible task multiple employees with reviewing subrecipients for risk.

## RISK ASSESSMENTS

- If a subrecipient is determined to be high risk by the assessment tool created by the municipality than on-sight monitoring needs to be scheduled.
- I recommend scheduling on-sight monitoring prior to the subrecipient receiving more than 50% of their award.

## **ON-SIGHT MONITORING**

- On-sight monitoring is limited to reviewing records related to the funded project.
- Create a monitoring checklist or form.
  - Outline areas of the organization that will be reviewed.
  - Allow municipal employees to document findings.
- Documents that should be reviewed:
  - Accounting records
  - Accounting and financial processes and procedures
  - Documentation of individuals accessing the program
  - Record storage and retention procedures

## **ON-SIGHT MONITORING**

#### FINDINGS

- Document findings from monitoring
- Create remediation plan with subrecipient

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

 Do not allow subrecipient to draw down funding until remediation plan has been completed.

# Thank you.

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